

What is claimed is:

1                   1 (currently amended).     An installation device for plumbing elements,  
2     comprising:  
3                   a flush-mounting box that has an open front having an edge, the flush-  
4     mounting box having side walls extending from the edge to a base, wherein  
5     protruding eyes extend radially outwardly on an outer surface of the side walls  
6     adjacent to the base for affixing the flush-mounting box at the base, the  
7     mounting box further comprising fittings for installing plumbing elements within  
8     the flush-mounting box, said fittings including apertures in the side walls,  
9                   a flange on an outside of the box, and  
10                  plural means on the box for fastening the flange to the box at a  
11     selectably variable distance **rearwardly** back from the edge **at the open**  
12     **front**.

1                   2 (previously presented).   An installation device according to claim 1,  
2     wherein the flange comprises a solid ring.

1                   3 (previously presented).   An installation device according to claim 1,  
2     comprising a plurality of structures spaced back from edge at the open front  
3     and on outer surfaces of the side walls, wherein the flange is set to said  
4     distance by fastening to a selected one of the structures.

1                   4 (original).   An installation device according to claim 1, wherein the  
2     flange is fastened directly to the flush-mounting box.

Claims 5 and 6 were canceled.

1           7(previously presented - allowed). An installation device for plumbing  
2 elements, comprising:

3           a flush-mounting box that has an open front having an edge, the flush-  
4 mounting box having side walls extending from the edge to a base, wherein  
5 protruding eyes extend radially outwardly on an outer surface of the side walls  
6 adjacent to the base for affixing the flush-mounting box at the base, the  
7 mounting box further comprising fittings for installing plumbing elements within  
8 the flush-mounting box, said fittings including apertures in the side walls,

9           a flange on an outside of the box;

10           plural means on the box for fastening the flange to the box at a  
11 selectably variable distance back from the edge;

12           a plurality of structures spaced back from edge at the open front and on  
13 outer surfaces of the side walls, wherein the flange is set to said distance by  
14 fastening to a selected one of the structures; and,

15           wherein the outer surfaces of the side walls and an inner surface of the  
16 flange engage at one of plural ribs spaced back from the edge and having 0°  
17 pitch angles.

1           8(previously presented - allowed). An installation device according to  
2 claim 7, wherein the ribs are interrupted at at least one location on their  
3 circumference down to at least a root of the ribs.

1           9(previously presented - allowed). An installation device for plumbing  
2 elements, comprising:

3           a flush-mounting box that has an open front having an edge, the flush-  
4 mounting box having side walls extending from the edge to a base, wherein  
5 protruding eyes extend radially outwardly on an outer surface of the side walls  
6 adjacent to the base for affixing the flush-mounting box at the base, the

7 mounting box further comprising fittings for installing plumbing elements within  
8 the flush-mounting box, said fittings including apertures in the side walls,  
9 a flange on an outside of the box;  
10 plural means on the box for fastening the flange to the box at a  
11 selectably variable distance back from the edge; and,  
12 wherein the means on the box comprise ribs that are interrupted at at  
13 least one location on their circumference down to at least the root of the ribs.

1 10(previously presented). An installation device according to claim 1,  
2 wherein a joint between the flush-mounting box and the flange comprises at  
3 least one bayonet joint.

Claim 11 was canceled.

1 12(previously presented). An installation device according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the flange is fastenable to the flush-mounting box from the open front  
3 of the flush-mounting box.

Claims 13 and 14 were canceled.

1 15(previously presented). An installation device according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the flange is latchable into position on the flush-mounting box.

1 16(previously presented). An installation device according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the plural means on the box for fastening the flange to the box  
3 comprise a plurality of grooves on an outside of the side walls of the box,  
4 spaced back at different distances from the edge of the open front of the box;  
5 the flange is fastenable on the outside of the box by inward protrusions  
6 on the flange that engage with a selected one of the grooves for selectably  
7 setting a distance of the flange back from the edge.

1           17(previously presented - allowed).       An installation device for  
2 plumbing elements, comprising:

3           a flush-mounting box that has an open front having an edge, the flush-  
4 mounting box having side walls extending from the edge to a base, wherein  
5 protruding eyes extend from the side walls adjacent to the base for affixing the  
6 flush-mounting box at the base, the mounting box having fittings for installing  
7 plumbing elements within the flush-mounting box, said fittings including  
8 apertures in the side walls,

9           a flange on an outside of the box,  
10 plural means on the box for fastening the flange to the box at a  
11 selectably variable distance back from the edge,

1           wherein the plural means on the box for fastening the flange to the box  
2 comprise a plurality of grooves on an outside of the side walls of the box,  
3 spaced back at different distances from the edge of the open front of the box;

4           the flange is fastenable on the outside of the box by inward protrusions  
5 on the flange that engage with a selected one of the grooves for selectably  
6 setting a distance of the flange back from the edge; and,

7           wherein the grooves are located at tangential surfaces protruding  
8 radially on the outside of the box, between which surfaces are gaps along  
9 which the inward protrusions of the flange are movable back from the edge,  
10 wherein the inward protrusions of the flange are engaged in a selected one of  
11 the grooves by rotation of the flange relative to the box.

1           18(previously presented - allowed).       The installation device of claim  
2 17, wherein the grooves end in broadened sections that receive the  
3 protrusions of the flanges.

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